

# TV camera eye on Snowbird Galleries

Snowbird Galleries, at 36 Main St. East welcomed in the '90s by being selected for a spot on CFTO's Eye on Toronto program. Explained owner Al Dixon, "if viewers like a store, they can phone in and recommend it for the show. One of our customers was kind enough to suggest us, and even though we aren't in Toronto, we were selected."

The finished profile, which was taped on Jan. 2, is between two and three minutes long, he noted, but involved a whole morning's work. "They did an interview with me and then spent about three hours here shooting film of the store." Al said he was very impressed with the professionalism and friendly attitude of the crew, "and what's more, it's free of charge," he grinned.

### Clothing store closes

Jan Lee-Hue, owner of Bermuda Casuals, had mixed feelings about saying goodbye to her customers when she made the difficult decision to close her Main St. East store at the beginning of last week.

"I just thought maybe this was the best time to do it. I don't think it (the retail trade) is going to get any better for a while." Rather than put more money into the business, she decided to take a break and think about her future. "I'm going to just rest for a while, and then I may take some courses. I'd like to try something new and different." The Markham resident opened Bermuda Casuals 20 months ago.

**Surprise party:** When it came to celebrating his wife Melinda's 50th birthday, Neville Hodgson was determined to do things in style, so he invited a host of friends, including some from Melinda's childhood days, to celebrate with her at the Earl of Whitchurch last Tuesday evening.

Although she may have suspected something was up "she was completely surprised and thrilled when she arrived."

There were people there who knew her as an infant as well as elementary and high school friends," says Neville. "Every single person in the room meant something special to her."

Many friends and neighbors from O'Brien Avenue, where the Hodgsons have lived since 1972, joined the fun. "They really are a fine and friendly group, and we couldn't have had the party without including them."

### Daycare struggle

Dickson Hill Daycare and Nursery, currently operating out of the church at 78 Dickson Hill, have acquired a house five doors away where they hope to offer additional facilities for infants and toddlers. At present, the centre offers daycare for children between 18 months and five years of age.

Owner Judy Normandeau notes, "there's a desperate need for school age and infant care. Our toddlers' program is always full and has a huge waiting list." However, they face opposition from neighbors concerned about additional traffic and the rezoning of a residential home for commercial use.

With Dickson Hill Public School, which has 400 children bused in every day and other commercial facilities on the street, Ms. Normandeau feels that an extra 10 or 15 cars won't make a lot of difference. When we had our inspection from the Ministry of Community and Social Services they were thrilled



grapevine

kate gilderdale

we were considering opening an operation, because of the tremendous shortage of daycare for infants in the area." A public meeting on the issue should be held shortly, she said.

### PEI moves west

Most of the current CBC

Television adaptation of Road to Avonlea, which is set in PEI, was actually shot in Uxbridge, on a farm north of Pickering.

Although the set is off limits to the general public, members of Stouffville's Christ Church Anglican were able to visit the location during a recent car ral-

ly, which was part of the church's 110th anniversary celebrations. It was a very authentic looking scene, noted visitor Sue Ruttan.

"It looked exactly like a little village, with the houses on either side of the Main Street and the school house down the hill." Her children, Amy and Stephanie, wanted to go into the houses, "but there was nothing inside them, just the outside shell." Filming is due to be completed by the end of February.

### Student flies to England

Shaunna Sanders, daughter of

ward 6 councillor Jim and his wife Lovanna, is among a group of University of Guelph students who will be spending the current semester in London, England. "Guelph has a house over there called London House," explained Jim.

"They selected a number of applicants, and Shaunna and four others flew over on Dec. 28." During her stay, she'll be taking drama, music, social interaction and art history, said her father. "She'll be there for this term and then she plans to travel around Europe."

## As of January 1, 1990 you no longer pay OHIP premiums And you are still covered

### When will premium payments end?

January 1, 1990.

Ontario residents are responsible for paying their premiums until the end of December 1989, for the period through March 31, 1990.

### Will my health care coverage continue?

Yes. If you were covered you will continue to be covered under your present OHIP number.

Payment of the final premium will ensure continuous coverage to March 31, 1990.

After April 1, 1990, coverage will automatically remain valid for all eligible residents of Ontario.

Ontario's health care system covers all residents of the province including students, senior citizens, retired people, people on social assistance, people who are employed, unemployed or self-employed.

### What should I do if I do not have an OHIP number?

Contact your local OHIP office.

### Will the change affect personal coverage under company plans such as semi-private coverage or company drug plans?

No.

### Why did the Ontario Government eliminate OHIP premiums?

In the past, many companies paid all or a percentage of OHIP for their employees. Other companies paid nothing. Many Ontarians paid OHIP premiums on their own.

Unfortunately, many of the people who had to pay their own premiums were those who could least afford them.

The new Employer Health Tax and the elimination of OHIP premiums will make the system fair for everyone.

### Will there be enough money to maintain the quality of health care we enjoy today?

Yes. Last year nearly fourteen billion dollars, one third of the entire provincial budget, went towards providing health care for Ontario residents. The elimination of premiums in no way affects the amount of money the government has committed to health care. It simply changes one of the sources of the money. In the past OHIP premiums only paid for a very small part of the Ontario health care system. Most of the money for health care came from general revenues collected through the tax system.

### What do I do when I go to the doctor or the hospital?

Do what you usually do. Use your OHIP number. It's still the same. Present your number to show that you are eligible for health care services.

### Did we miss answering one of your questions?

If you have further questions here are two ways we can help you:

- 1) Call your local OHIP office. You'll find the number in the blue pages of your local telephone directory. or
- 2) Call the Ontario Ministry of Health toll-free number: **1-800-269-1154**. **TDD 1-800-387-5559**.

Ministry of Health  
**Ontario**  
Ministère de la Santé